

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION FROM THE TOWN OF MARSHFIELD

Name of organization: Elevate Youth Services (formerly Washington County Youth Service Bureau)

Address: 652 Granger Road, Suite 2, Barre, VT 05641

Telephone number: 802-229-9151

The Selectboard will include a one-line description in the warning for town meeting. How would you like your services to be described in the warning (no more than 10 words):

Article: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$ 250 to Elevate Youth Services (formerly Washington County Youth Service Bureau) for: **prevention, intervention, support for youth and families in Washington County.**

The Town will also include a description of your services in the Town report.

What type of services do you provide? (no more than 100 words)

Elevate Youth Service's mission is to *"Promote safety, competence, and confidence as youth create their path through adolescence and into adulthood."* Providing youth & family counseling; emergency shelter and housing assistance for runaway and homeless youth; adolescent substance abuse treatment; support for youth involved in foster care; transitional housing and case management for young men returning from jail; a teen center; and a 24 hour on-call service. We only seek town funds for our services in Washington County.

How do your services directly impact the citizens of Marshfield?

EYS has served hundreds of youth and families from the town of Marshfield since 1974 and has served an average of 6-7 Marshfield youth annually during the last decade (65 total youth). While this report identifies the specific services delivered to Marshfield residents during our last fiscal year (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023), services accessed by Marshfield residents vary from year to year. Marshfield residents are eligible to participate in any of our community-based programs as outlined above or at www.elevateyouthvt.org and we work with specific community providers to make sure residents are aware that our services are available.

EYS services make a difference in people's lives. This is evident in client feedback and through service data outcomes (families reporting stabilization of conflict, homeless youth are sheltered, substance abuse is reduced, etc. EYS is the only multi-service agency that provides services specifically designed to meet the unique needs of adolescents and young adults. The youth we serve are often in extremely challenging situations, i.e.; homeless, survivors of trauma, domestic violence, substance use, severe economic stress, rural isolation, trouble with the law, depression, etc. Youth become involved in EYS services primarily through referrals from other agencies, schools, law enforcement, diversion, their peers, community outreach, and they often refer themselves. Youth involvement can range from a few weeks to several years and may include multiple programs. It is not unusual, for example, for youths served in the Transitional Living Program for homeless teens or the Runaway Program to be served through the Healthy Youth Program for substance abuse treatment. Families who are receiving counseling may encourage their teens to become involved in the substance-free activities of the Basemen Teen Center. EYS serves individuals from all economic backgrounds, however, most youth and families receiving EYS services are low income and qualify for Medicaid.

How many Marshfield residents were served in the past year?

4 Marshfield residents were served in FY 23 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023):

- **2 Youth and their families** were assisted by the Country Roads Program that provides 24-hour crisis intervention, short-term counseling, and temporary, emergency shelter for youth who have runaway, are homeless, or are in crisis.
- **2 Youth** received **Substance Abuse Treatment** through the **Healthy Youth Program**, that provides substance abuse education, intervention, assessments, treatment and positive life skills coaching and support for families.

How much are you requesting? \$250

How do you calculate or justify the amount of money that you are requesting from us?

For close to 30 years, requested \$250 from the Town of Marshfield. This year's funding request represents a cost of approximately \$62.50 per person served, and approximately \$11.75 per staff hour (approximately 21.25 hours provided). This is only a small fraction of the cost of the services provided by EYS. Most of the services provided to Marshfield residents have involved multiple sessions, counseling services were provided by certified or licensed clinicians, and emergency temporary shelter included 24-hour supervision, meals, and transportation. Our request to Marshfield represents approximately .92% of the total amount EYS received from Washington County Towns for FY25.

Last year's appropriation request: \$250

Last year's grant from the Town: \$250

Explanation of any increase in this year's request (if applicable): N/A